

REVIEWS EARLY COURT HISTORY OF THE ISLANDS

Writer in California Newspaper
Tells of Arrival of First
U. S. Minister

Writing in the Pasadena (Cal.) Star-News, Gussie Packard Du Ross has the following to say concerning the arrival of the first American minister to the Hawaiian Islands, as well as something about early court life in this city:

The first American minister to the Hawaiian Islands was Dr. James McBride, father of Dr. James H. McBride of Pasadena. He was a noted pioneer and public man of Oregon, and went out in the spring of 1883, bearing credentials from President Lincoln. King Kamehameha was then ruling, and his wife was Queen Emma. On the arrival of Dr. McBride and his secretary, John L. Bernard, they were met by the secretary of the American legation, but they were obliged to walk from the wharf to the legation for the reason that in all Honolulu there were but three vehicles; the king had one, of course, the leading banker in the islands had a phaeton, and one of the merchants owned a one-horse carriage. The legation was a sort of bungalow, white-washed, with a veranda extending across the front, and a high white-washed fence which shut off a view of the house from the street.

Meeting With King.
A few days after their arrival a meeting with the king was arranged, and they were taken to the throne room and introduced to the king and his suite, where a short informal conversation was held. A few days later a brilliant reception was planned, and the rooms of the royal palace were thronged with members of the royal family, diplomatic representatives in the islands and prominent residents of the islands. After the reception the royal band played music for dancing. Dr. McBride's rank entitled him to dance with the queen, but as he had never learned to dance he was obliged to forego this pleasure, and his secretary was accorded the privilege. During the intervals between the dances the young secretary, then 27, had the opportunity to converse with the queen and others of the royal family, beginning pleasant social relations which continued throughout his stay.

Dr. McBride lost no time in making himself acquainted with political and commercial interests in the islands, and in one of his early letters to Secretary of State Seward he stated that this was to become a very important half-way house between Europe and America on one side, and China and Japan on the other.

Russian Naval Captain.
An interesting visitor to Honolulu in 1884 was a Russian naval officer, Capt. (afterward admiral) Enquist. The captain had a short time before been stationed in Alaska. He stood high in the confidence of his government and knew that Alaska was an undesirable possession to Russia, and, through frequent conversations with him, Dr. McBride became convinced that Russia was anxious to dispose of her holdings. So he set himself to the task of convincing the state department of the desirability of purchasing, writing letters to Secretary Seward and sending samples of gold and other minerals known to exist there, together with documents and affidavits of whalers and others acquainted with the furs and fisheries of the region. As soon as the storm of the Civil War had passed, Seward took up the matter, and the world knows the result.

Plan for Naval Station.
Another evidence of Dr. McBride's foresight was his recommendation to the state department a year later of the purchase of a tract of land suitable for a naval station at or near Honolulu.

As an American diplomat he compelled respect for the government which he represented and the dignity of his office, openly rebuking the British and French ministers for conversing in his presence in public meetings in French, a language with which he was not familiar, and compelling two young officers in the British navy to restore to its place over the door of the United States legation the coat of arms which they had smuggled away in the night. International demands and an apology from the British government followed. It is interesting to know that the two midshipmen were Lord Gordon and Lord Charles Beresford.

Pioneer of Oregon.
Dr. McBride was one of the first hardy pioneers to Oregon, and by reason of his intellectual and moral force became one of the leaders in the lower Willamette Valley. It was as a reward for his services that President Lincoln appointed him to the Hawaiian post. He resigned in 1867 and returned to Oregon, where he died 20 years later at his home near Portland, leaving four sons; one was congressman from Oregon during the Civil War and chief justice of Idaho; a second associate justice of the supreme court of Oregon; a third United States senator from Oregon and a fourth, Dr. James H. McBride of Pasadena, is one of the leading authorities on nervous diseases in the United States.

Current is being transmitted from Sweden to Denmark through a submarine cable between Helsingborg, Sweden, and Elsinore, Denmark, a distance of about ten miles. The power comes from water falls in southern Sweden.

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HAWAII'S TRADE WITH MAINLAND NEARING HUNDRED MILLION MARK

Growth of Auto Figures Shows
How Prosperity is Being
"Spread Around"

Hawaii's annual trade is fast approaching the one hundred million mark, that for 1915 having been \$96,565,578, exclusive of gold and silver movements between here and the mainland United States.

Details have arrived in the December issue of the monthly summary of United States commerce published by the department of commerce.

Trade with the states was \$89,878,112, being an increase of \$20,142,063 over 1914.

Hawaii's Foreign Trade.
Direct foreign trade of the territory amounted to \$6,212,468, being a decrease of \$357,419. Exchanges of foreign merchandise between Hawaii and the mainland amounted to \$474,999, which would bring the territory's dealings in foreign goods up to \$6,687,466. This item is not included in the foregoing statement of commerce with the United States.

This issue of trade returns for the first time in many years omits the tabulation of Hawaii's direct foreign trade, so that it leaves unanswered the interesting question of the effect of the war upon that branch of Hawaiian commerce, and prevents a comparison here of the territory's trade with various foreign countries for the past two years. The figures given herewith are from the table of imports and exports by customs districts.

Hawaii's foreign imports are given as \$5,920,457, being a decrease of \$190,603 from 1914; and exports \$292,011, a decline of \$166,807. Foreign merchandise received through the United States was valued at \$298,857, and that shipped to the mainland \$176,142.

Some Purchases From U. S.
Following are some details of the territory's imports from the states:

Animals, including fowls, \$194,409. Breadstuffs, including animal feed, \$2,542,901, an increase of \$214,928. In addition hay was imported to the value of \$263,903.

Automobiles, \$1,482,622, an increase of \$520,945. Parts of autos make an additional item of \$145,674, and the total of cars, carriages, etc., inclusive of above, was \$1,628,296, being an increase of \$671,836.

Gold and silver manufacturers, \$63,652, an increase of \$15,017; jewelry, \$114,103, an increase of \$33,720.

Iron and steel, machinery, etc., \$4,535,802, an increase of \$1,449,304.

Meat Bill Was Big.

Meat and dairy products, \$1,286,823, increase \$175,900.

Mineral oil, \$2,056,170, increase \$82,400.

Spirits, wines and malt liquors, \$687,452, a decrease of \$38,905.

Tobacco manufactures, \$824,436, a decrease of \$100,519.

Vegetables, \$41,264, an increase of \$35,109.

Wood and manufactures of, \$1,745,140, increase \$464,875.

Purchases Below 1913.

While the aggregate of purchases from the mainland, \$28,547,178, was \$5,897,400 above that of 1914, it fell below that of the year 1913 by \$1,206,179.

In imports and exports by noncontiguous territories, Hawaii heads all excepting for a lead of Porto Rico in imports from the states of \$3,083,475. Under this head the following data is found:

Hawaii—From U. S., \$28,547,178; increase, \$5,897,400. To U. S., \$61,350,234; increase, \$14,244,663.

Alaska—From U. S., \$22,847,090; or \$5,700,088 less than Hawaii. To U. S., \$32,981,686, or \$28,349,248 less than Hawaii.

Porto Rico—From U. S., \$21,630,653, or \$3,083,475 more than Hawaii. To U. S., \$43,682,080, or \$17,648,854 less than Hawaii. Net aggregate of trade below Hawaii, \$14,565,379.

Philippine Islands—From U. S., \$26,309,230, or \$2,237,948 less than Hawaii. To U. S., \$22,671,803, or \$38,659,131 less than Hawaii.

Some Hawaiian Shipments.

Below are the figures for the more important of Hawaii's shipments to the states:

Rice, \$124,765, a decrease of \$8360.

Fruits and nuts, \$5,388,935, a decrease of \$771,589. Pineapples, canned, included in foregoing, \$5,111,922, a decrease of \$812,819.

Bananas, \$189,578, an increase of \$63,123. Pineapple juice, not included in fruits and nuts, \$11,836, a decrease of \$36,529.

Sugar, \$54,531,036, an increase of \$15,010,125. Included in refined sugar the value of \$1,457,804, increase \$279,001. Sugar by quantity, 630,680,445 tons, an increase of 25,259,325 tons.

Coffee, \$386,464, a decrease of \$131,600.

Fibers, \$53,405, a decrease of \$9590.

Tobacco, \$9498, a decrease of \$12,508.

Wool, \$70,370, an increase of \$16,910.

Wood and manufactures of, \$47,172, a decrease of \$8620.

Hides and skins, \$250,820, increase \$62,096.

Honey, \$40,013, increase \$4860.

PLAN FOR CITY GARAGE AGAIN TALKED ABOUT

No One Knows for Certain to
Which Committee Matter
Was Referred

Gossip around the city hall lately has been concerned with the fate of the proposed municipal garage. Every city and county official who will talk about it agrees that the city could save a great deal of money by repairing its own automobiles, and all seem to think that the city should establish a central headquarters for the machines it owns. No one appears to oppose the project, and all declare that it was brought before the board of supervisors several months ago.

Yet no definite knowledge of the fate of the project can be obtained. Mayor Lane says that it was referred to a special committee and the city engineer. Others declare that it was sent to the finance committee, and by them hoisted on to the road committee.

Collins Seen Too Busy.
"I was informally asked by a member of the board to report on the advisability of the construction and maintenance of a city garage, but have been so busy with improvement projects that I have not had time to get to it," asserts George M. Collins, city engineer. "The board has never requested me to report to it on the matter."

"The project was informally discussed in a meeting some time during December, but it was not referred to any committee," declares Eugene Bultandau, clerk to the supervisors.

"It was referred to my committee and then turned over to the road committee," says Daniel Logan, chairman of the finance committee.

"I remember the discussion, but I don't think it was ever referred to any committee. Certainly we haven't got it in our hands," states Charles N. Arnold, acting chairman of the road committee.

AERIAL AMBULANCE

FOR USE IN BATTLES

TO BE MADE IN U. S.

SAN DIEGO, Cal.—An aeroplane devised to transport wounded men from a battlefield to a base hospital is being built by a California manufacturer, according to United States army aviators here.

Slung underneath the body of the aeroplane will be a small cot, securely fastened and so constructed that it will be impossible for the occupant to fall out or even be shaken up when the aeroplane is volplaned to earth.

A small hole, cut in the bottom of the observer's apartment of the "ambulance" will enable a hospital attendant to give first aid while the pilot is making his way to the hospital.

MAY COMBINE ON ONE PASTOR FOR MAUI CHURCHES

[Special Star-Bulletin Correspondence.]
LAHAINA, March 22.—On Saturday afternoon the semi-annual meeting of the Maui County Evangelical Churches came to a conclusion. The meetings began on Wednesday, and with the association of the churches were also held meetings of the association of the Sunday schools and Christian Endeavor societies of the county. The total attendance was large and every church in the county, aside from the Japanese churches, was represented by the pastor or committee on supply.

The most important action taken was the change in the bylaws of the association, whereby in the future only one large meeting will be held each year, in January or February, and one day of the general association meetings will be devoted to the local island work. It was also voted to see what could be done to unite the various churches on Maui in the support of one pastor. This whole matter was placed in the hands of a special committee, of which Rev. Rowland B. Dodge was appointed the chairman. A tour of inspection of the churches for this purpose will be made by the committee in the near future.

FRIENDLINESS OF SWISS
INVITES ALLIES' ATTACK

ZURICH, Switzerland.—Col. Rechel, the Swiss federal auditor, in the course of his charge for the prosecution against the two Swiss colonels, whose acquittal already has been announced, on the charge of communicating secret military documents to the German and Austrian attaches in Switzerland, said he strongly condemned the too friendly relations of one of the colonels with the attaches and added that, to explain his sentiment in this regard, he need only refer to the fate of Belgium, "whose adversaries have never been able, with any show of reason, to reproach her with anything except certain relations which her general staff is supposed to have had with foreign powers."

"If one of the belligerents," he concluded, "wished to find a pretext for attacking Switzerland, it could also invoke the communication by Swiss officials of confidential documents to its enemies."

TRIES TO KILL SELF BY
SWALLOWING 35 CENTS

CHICAGO, Ill.—Morris Ginsberg, held at a local police station on a charge of attempting to kill his wife with an ax, attempted to take his own life by swallowing 35 cents in change. Ginsberg has recovered both his money and his health.

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DECLARES RAIDERS
WILL BE VERY ACTIVE

AMSTERDAM, Holland.—Capt. Per-

sus, naval expert of the Berliner Tageblatt, discussing the new German campaign against merchant shipping, makes the assertion that it will

be carried out, not so much through the medium of submarines, whose activities are hampered by diplomatic difficulties, as through disguised com-

merce raiders, like the Moewe, which has already sunk several vessels of the Allies and which sent the Appam to Newport News with a prize crew.

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